GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3537
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2002
SPURT IN CRUDE OIL PRICES
BODAKUNTI VENKATESHWARLU

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the extra amount to be spent by Government on the import of crude oil due to spurt in international prices;

(b) the impact of the increased international price on consumers; and

(c) the action proposed or measures taken to check the impact of the increased international price on consumers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a): A comparison of the quantity and value of crude oil imports for the period April-October 2002 with the period April-October 2001 is given below:

April-October 2002		April - October 2001	
Quantity (TMT)@	Value (Rs. crore)	Quantity (TMT)@	Value (Rs. crore)
49,294	44,368	45,714	38,197

@ TMT: Thousand Metric Tonnes

The crude oil import bill for the remaining period of the current year will depend upon the actual imports and the crude oil prices during the balance period.

(b) & (c): With the dismantling of the Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM) in the petroleum sector effective 1st April 2002, the fluctuations in the international oil prices are bound to get reflected in the domestic consumer prices of petroleum products. In the case of excessive volatility in the international oil market, the Government may intervene to partially contain the impact of such volatility on domestic prices.